

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1437

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REF: STATE 212260

1. BELGIAN AMBASSADOR TAELEMANS, WHO WITH HIS WIFE ACCOMPANIED MR AND MRS GIEREK ON GIEREK'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO BELGIUM IN NOVEMBER 1973, HAS SHARED WITH US HIS OBSERVATIONS ON MRS GIEREK'S REACTIONS TO THE PROGRAM IN BELGIUM. TAELEMANS PRECEDED HIS REMARKS WITH THE CAVEAT THAT, SINCE THE GIEREKS SPENT THEIR EARLY MARRIED LIFE IN BELGIUM, THEIR REACTION TO THEIR VISIT TO BELGIUM HAD ITS NOSTALGIC PERSONAL SIDE WHICH WOULD, OF COURSE, NOT BE PRESENT DURING THE U.S. VISIT.

2. TAELEMANS BEGAN WITH THE GENERAL OBSERVATION THAT THE GIEREKS ARE BOTH SIMPLE, UNCOMPLICATED PEOPLE WHO DO NOT MAKE UNREASONABLE DEMANDS OF THEIR HOSTS AND DO NOT CREATE PROTOCOL OR PROGRAMMING PROBLEMS. MRS GIEREK APPEARED WELL-ORGANIZED AND WELL-EQUIPPED FOR EVERY OCCASION AND WAS ALWAYS CORRECTLY, BUT MODESTLY DRESSED. SHE BROUGHT HER OWN HAIR DRESSER TO BELGIUM AND WAS SELF-CONTAINED IN EVERY WAY.

3. TAELEMANS SAID THAT MRS GIEREK APPEARED TO BE MORE INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING HER HUSBAND THAN IN HAVING HER OWN PERSONAL PROGRAM. NEVERTHELESS, SHE PARTICIPATED CHEERFULLY AND WILLINGLY IN

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EVERYTHING THE BELGIANS ORGANIZED FOR HER. SEPARATE PRO-

GRAM ACTIVITIES FOR MRS GIEREK INCLUDED A VISIT TO A MUSEUM OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, A VISIT TO A CHILD DAY-CARE CENTER, AND A DAY IN BRUGES WHICH INCLUDED MUSEUM VISITS. TAELEMANS SAID THAT MRS GIEREK WAS GRACIOUS THROUGHOUT AND SEEMED TO SHOW SPECIAL INTEREST IN THE DAY-CARE CENTER.

4. SUMMING UP, TAELEMANS SAID THAT THE BELGIANS FOUND MRS GIEREK AN EXTREMELY PLEASANT, AGREEABLE, UNDEMANDING, AND QUIETLY CHARMING GUEST. SHE WAS MORE HER HUSBANDS WIFE THAN AN INDIVIDUAL WITH WELL-DEFINED INTERESTS OF HER OWN AND ACCOMPANIED HER HUSBAND ON CEREMONIAL OCCASIONS, SUCH AS WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY AT THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER. HOWEVER, SHE TOOK A WARM INTEREST IN EVERY ACTIVITY IN WHICH SHE WAS INVOLVED, WHETHER WITH HER HUSBAND OR ON A SEPARATE PROGRAM. TAELEMANS CONCLUDED THAT SHE WAS THE IDEAL WIFE OF AN OFFICIAL GUEST.

5. WE WILL RESPOND TO REFTEL REQUEST FOR BIO DATA ON MESDAMES GIEREK, OLSZOWSKI, AND JAGIELSKI BY SEPTTEL. EVERYTHING WE HAVE ON MRS OLSZOWSKI IS FROM THE NEW BIOGRAPHIC HANDBOOK ON POLAND (CR BH74-11) OF AUGUST 1974, WHICH IS AVAILABLE IN WASHINGTON. WE HAVE NOTHING IN OUR BIO FILES ON MRS JAGIELSKI, OTHER THAN THAT SHE HAS TWO CHILDREN. WE HAVE ASKED THE MFA FOR BIO ON ALL THE LADIES AND WE WILL PROBABLY BE ABLE TO ADD MORE FROM OTHER SOURCES ON MRS GIEREK.

DAVIES

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